(b) if so, what is the number of such institutions;

(c) whether it is a fact that India ranks 115 in terms of investment in education as a percentage of G.N.P., and

(d) what are the plans to raise investment on primary, secondary, backward classes and women education ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) University Grants Commission provides financial assistance to all eligible universities and colleges for recruitment of staff, purchase of books, journals and equipment, construction of buildings and hostels. The Commission also provides financial assistance under various Schemes. According to the information furnished by UGC, at present, 96 eligible Universities and about 4100 eligible colleges are receiving financial assistance from the Commission for general development as well as under specific Schemes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The 8th Plan has given priority to universalistion of Elementary Education. The outlay for Elementary Education during 8th Plan has been increased to Rs. 8936.46 crores from 7th Plan expenditure of Rs. 2849.41 crores. For Secondary Education, outlay during 8th plan has been fixed at Rs. 3497.79 crores as compared to Rs. 1831.51 crores expenditure during seventh plan. Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women by providing them education is one of the strategies of development of education in the 8th Plan. Mobilising Women's Groups with involvement of local community to create favourable environment for Women Education is being implemented under the scheme of Mahila Samakhaya with external funding. The expenditure under the 7th plan for the scheme of Mahila Samakhaya was Rs. 3.04 crores against which the 8th Plan outlay has been fixed at Rs. 51.00 crores.

Opening of Regional Offices of U.G.C.

1908. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA :
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :
SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 636 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th February, 1992 and state :

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision to open Zonal Offices of University Grants Commission;

(b) if so, what are the criteria to start such zonal offices;

(c) whether any State Government has proposed to open such a zonal office; and

(d) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and if not, by when it is likely to be taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the Commission has taken a decision, in principle, to set up its regional offices in different parts of the country. Suggestions have been received from some State Governments as well as various other quarters for setting up of such regional offices at certain places in these States. No decision in regard to the location or the time frame for setting up of these offices has been taken due to the present constraint of financial resources.

Reports of Mass Cheating in Delhi University

1909. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI :
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been reports of mass cheating in the various examinations conducted by Delhi University this year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a lady lecturer of Ramjas College was threatened by the responsible office bearers of the Delhi University for being stern in the examinations. If so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether a Committee was appointed to look into the matter, and if so, what are the findings thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi there was a report from an examiner of suspected use of unfair means by group of students who had appeared for a particular paper from one of the examination centres of the university. The University processed this report and it was established that some unfair means were used by these students in the examination. On the basis of these findings, the Executive Council of the University, at its meeting held on 20-10-92, decided to cancel the entire examination taken by the concerned students and further debarred them from appearing at any examination of the university for another one year.

(c) and (d) The University has informed that a lady lecturer who was one of the examiners in the aforesaid examination had requested the University to arrange for her protection as she alleged being threatened by some of her colleagues and some unknown elements whereupon the University arranged necessary security for her. The Univresity did not set-up any committee to look into the matter.

Setting up of a Centre for National Integration

1910. DR. R. K. PODDAR :
SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI :
SHRI MD. SALIM :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a centre for national integration at the birth place of Raja Rammohan Roy in Hooghly district of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) There is no proposal with the Government to set up a Centre for national integration at the birth place of Raja Rammohan Roy in Hooghly district of West Bengal.

(b) Does not arise.

संस्कृति नीति के सम्बन्ध में राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन

1911. श्री राजू भाई ए० परमार :
श्रीमती वीणा वर्मा :

क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री : यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संस्कृति नीति के सम्बन्ध में 16–17 नवम्बर, 1992 को नई दिल्ली में एक दो दिवसीय सम्मेलन आयोजित किया गया था,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसमें सामान्यत: किन-किन प्रमुख बातों पर चर्चा हुई थी और विशेषत : भारतीय संस्कृति परिषद्, की स्थापना किए जाने के सम्बन्ध में क्या-क्या मुख्य टिप्पणियां और अनुशंसाएं की गई थीं;

(ग) उन पर आगे क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं, और

(घ) संस्कृति नीति की वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है और इसे कब तक अन्तिम रूप प्रदान किया जायेगा ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग और संस्कृति विभाग में उपमंत्री (कुमारी शैलजा) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) सामान्यत: विभिन्न दलों ने टिप्पणियां कीं कि कार्यकलापों का विकेन्द्रीकरण किया जाना चाहिए, इस तथ्य को मान्यता देते हुए कि विकास में संस्कृति एक महत्वपूर्ण घटक है, संस्कृति के लिए और